

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Social Services	(2) MEETING DATE 6/19/2012	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Trish Avery Caldwell 805.781.1831	
(4) SUBJECT Request to approve a renewal service contract (Clerk's File) for child care services with Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County, Inc., for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 in the amount of \$1,550,049.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that your Board approve, and direct the Chairperson to sign, a renewal service contract with Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County, Inc., for child care services in the amount of \$1,550,049 for Fiscal Year 2012-2013.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) 100% Federal	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$1,550,049	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$1,550,049	(9) BUDGETED? Yes
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. _____)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		(12) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5th's Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(13) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) 19001142		(14) W-9 <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	
(15) LOCATION MAP N/A	(16) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(17) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input type="checkbox"/> N/A Date <u>June 21, 2011</u> Approval _____	
(18) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Emily Jackson			
(19) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts			

County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Social Services/Trish Avery Caldwell
(805) 781-1831

DATE: 6/19/2012

SUBJECT: Request to approve a renewal service contract (Clerk's File) for child care services with Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County, Inc., for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 in the amount of \$1,550,049.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that your Board approve, and direct the Chairperson to sign, a renewal service contract with Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County, Inc., for child care services in the amount of \$1,550,049 for Fiscal Year 2012-2013.

DISCUSSION

In 1997 our federal/state public assistance program was drastically changed to focus on minimizing "welfare dependency" by increasing the number of working adults through expanded training and supportive services opportunities, and by giving states greater flexibility in the design and implementation of programs. The new Federal program was named Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and allowed States to offer unique programs based on individual state demographics. California's TANF program, California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs), includes detailed requirements and funding for supportive services to help families move into and succeed in the workforce. Specifically, child care services must be provided to CalWORKs participants who are required to participate in the Welfare-to-Work (WTW) program. If supportive services (i.e., child care) are not provided counties must give "good cause" for non-participation in the WTW program. Child care is necessary for most of our participants to support participation in assigned activities including work, training, education, drug and alcohol treatment, and/or mental health services.

In July 2009 the Federal Budget Act of 2009 was enacted to address the tremendous budget shortfall states are facing which has resulted in a lack of funding for necessary supportive services for CalWORKs participants. Specifically the Budget Act established two new CalWORKs work exemptions that were aimed at decreasing the demand for child care services and would remain in effect until June 2011 (referenced in State All County Letter ([ACL 09-46](#))). These exemptions applied to participants caring for young children who might otherwise be granted good cause from WTW participation due to a lack of supportive services.

In FY 2011-2012 the state projected continued budget challenges and the CalWORKs “young child(ren)” time limited exemptions were extended until June 30, 2012. In addition, new higher income limits were established to qualify for subsidized child care, and fees for families accessing subsidized child care were increased (referenced in State All County Letter – [ACL 11-38](#)) in an attempt to lower the state child care costs. At the same time child care for eleven (11) and twelve (12) year olds was to be eliminated for most in this age group, however was later reinstated based on available funding ([ACL 11-15](#)). A review of reported results for FY 2010-2011 and FY 2011-2012 indicates fewer families requesting and receiving child care services as a direct result of these changes.

As we approach FY 2012-2013 the budget forecast for the state remains bleak. To balance the budget the Governor has proposed significant reductions to CalWORKs and child care programs. At this time we understand the “young child(ren)” time-limit exemptions will not be extended into FY 2012-2013. However to limit those eligible for CalWORKs child care, the Governor will be imposing stricter limits on activities that qualify for child care services and lowering state payments to providers. It is anticipated that with the new program rules that child care services will remain the same or decrease in FY 2012-2013.

Despite all the program and funding changes the structure of the Federal/State subsidized child care remains the same in FY 2012-2013 and will continue to be available to three (3) primary groups of low-income families:

- TANF/CalWORKs families (Stage 1 child care)
- Families transitioning off TANF/CalWORKs (Stage 1 and Stage 2 child care)
- Other low-income working families (Stage 3 child care)

In California the responsibility for child care programs is divided between California Department of Social Services (CDSS) for welfare recipients (Stage 1), and the California Department of Education (CDE) for all low-income working families (Stages 2 and 3). The intent of the three stages is to avoid a break in child care services as a participant moves closer to self-sufficiency. In each of the three stages, families may choose their own provider. The provider must either be licensed or exempt from licensing (e.g., family member providing care). Child care providers are paid directly for services performed. In FY 2012-2013 the Governor will be looking at consolidating funding and administration for child care programs which could result in system changes in FY 2013-2014.

The Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County, Inc. (CAPSLO), previously known as the Economic Opportunity Commission of San Luis Obispo County, Inc. (EOC), a private nonprofit, began providing services in San Luis Obispo County in 1965 and offers many programs for low-income individuals and families including child care. The County has contracted with CAPSLO since 1998 to administer CalWORKs Stage 1 child care which includes facilitating child care services and making direct payments to child care providers. CAPSLO is approved by the State to handle CDSS child care funds and serves an average of 350 county children per year.

In addition, CAPSLO provides the County a Resource and Referral Child Care program to assist CalWORKs participants in accessing immediate, quality and affordable child care as they begin their CalWORKs WTW activities and move towards employment and self-sufficiency. To expedite the child care process, a CAPSLO Family Resource Specialist (FRS) works on-site at each of the

Department of Social Services (DSS) regional offices and handles DSS referrals for participants who are requesting services at that office. Reliable transportation is a barrier for many of our participants and having child care staff co-located in regional County offices allows the FRS to offer easy and timely access to referral and resource services to ensure a seamless process for CalWORKs participants. Participants requesting child care are provided with a list of qualified child care providers to select services from. The process promotes parental choice and ensures that families have stable child care that they are comfortable with.

The approval of this renewal contract will enable CAPSLO to continue to provide CalWORKs child care services that empower parents to make decisions that maximize the health and safety of their children. These services also aid in meeting the long-term welfare reform goals and the outcomes of Assembly Bill 636 (AB 636), the Child Welfare System Improvement and Accountability Act (better known as the System Improvement Plan or SIP) that focuses on continuous improvement, interagency partnerships, community involvement and public reporting outcomes. In addition, these services support the Department and County goal of ensuring all people in our community enjoy healthy, successful and productive lives, and have access to the basic necessities.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT

This contract was developed in partnership with CAPSLO and County Counsel has reviewed and approved the contract as to legal form and effect.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The total contract amount for CAPSLO Stage 1 and Resource and Referral child care services is \$1,550,049. The contract is included in the DSS adopted budget for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 and will require no General Fund contribution.

Agency	Actual FY 10-11	Estimated FY 11-12	Budgeted FY 12-13	Notes	Sharing Ratios		
					Fed	St	Co
CAPSLO	\$1,550,049	\$1,550,049	\$1,550,049	Child Care Services	100%	0%	0%

RESULTS

Stage I Child Care

Fiscal Year 11-12

An estimated three hundred seventy-five (375) eligible children received Stage 1 child care services during the contract year.

CAPSLO met its performance outcome and provided a seamless system of child care to 100% of CalWORKs participants who needed subsidized childcare to fulfill their CalWORKs Welfare-to-Work (WTW) program requirements and, as a result, assisted families in becoming self-sufficient and remaining off cash assistance over the long run.

CAPSLO met its performance outcome and tracked and reported the number of children enrolled in

Stage 1, the number whose Stage 1 ended, and the number of children transferred into Stage 2 child care.

Services provided resulted in:

1. An estimated three hundred seventy-five (375) children being enrolled in Stage 1 child care.
2. An estimated one hundred twenty-two (122) Stage 1 child care services ending.
3. An estimated one hundred seventy-six (176) children transferring into Stage 2 child care.

Fiscal Year 12-13

CAPSLO will provide a seamless system of child care to CalWORKs participants who need subsidized childcare to fulfill their CalWORKs Welfare-to-Work (WTW) program requirements and, as a result, will assist families in becoming self-sufficient and remaining off cash assistance over the long run.

CAPSLO will track and report the number of children enrolled in Stage 1, the number whose Stage 1 has ended, and the number of children transferred into Stage 2 child care.

Resource and Referral Childcare

Fiscal Year 11-12

An estimated five hundred seventy (570) participants received child care referral services during the contract year.

CAPSLO provided services that resulted in an estimated ninety percent (90%) of participants being contacted within 24 hours of the Family Resource Specialists (FRS) receiving the DSS 9600 Child Care Referral. *The total participants contacted within 24 hours were lower than the anticipated one hundred percent (100%) due to:*

- *Incorrect information provided on the DSS 9600*
- *No return call from participant*
- *No answer machine and/or number disconnected*

The FRS tries a number of times to make immediate contact with each referred participant, including working with the DSS Employment Resource Specialist (ERS) to confirm information and/or participant continued interest in child care. Contractor will continue to attempt to contact all participants referred by DSS within 24 hours.

CAPSLO provided services that resulted in meeting with an average of fifty percent (50%) of participants within 5 business days of when contact was made. *The total participants scheduled for an appointment within 5 business days is lower than the anticipated one hundred percent (100%) due to:*

- *Parent(s) failed to show up for scheduled appointment*
- *Parent (s) unavailable during the 5 day period and appointment is scheduled after the 5 days*

- *Parent (s) cancels and reschedules for a later date*

CAPSLO will continue to attempt to meet with all participants referred by DSS within 5 days of contact being made.

CAPSLO met its performance outcome and provided services that resulted in tracking and reporting the number of child care referrals given to the participants. *An estimated three hundred and twenty-five (325) referrals were given to participants.*

CAPSLO met its performance outcome and provided services that tracked and reported the number of intake meetings conducted and the number of participant no-show appointments. *An estimated three hundred sixty (360) intake meetings were conducted by the CAPSLO FRS and there were approximately one hundred thirty (130) no-shows for appointments.*

Fiscal Year 12-13

CAPSLO will attempt to make contact with one hundred percent (100%) of participants within 24 hours of FRS receiving a DSS 9600 Child care Referral from County.

CAPSLO will attempt to meet with one hundred percent (100%) of participants within 5 business days of when contact is made.

CAPSLO will track and report the number of child care referrals given to participants.

CAPSLO will track and report the number of intake meetings conducted and the number of participant no-show appointments.

ATTACHMENT

Clerk's File